



Town of Arlington, Massachusetts
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04/10/2013 Minutes

Town of Arlington

Transportation Advisory Committee

Minutes of 4/10/13, 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm, Town Hall Annex, Second Floor Conf. Room.

Minutes submitted by Laura Wiener.

Members and Associates Present: Elisabeth Carr-Jones, Wayne Chouinard, Jean Clark, Paul Kent, Jeff Maxtutis, Howard Muise, Corey Rateau, Scott Smith, Ed Starr, Richard Turcotte, Laura Wiener

Missing Members and Associates: John Lentz

Members of the Public Present: Mark Kaepplein

- Public Comments. Mark Kaepplein noted that in the recent Town election voters favored 4 lanes on Mass. Ave.
- Administration.
 - Minutes of 3/12/13 were approved unanimously. There was no correspondence this month.
 - Administrative handouts were reviewed.
- Town reports.
 - Corey said that he has been working on sign requests, including adjustments to the Hardy School drop-off zone. He attended a town-wide Safe Routes to Schools meeting the previous week.
 - Wayne Chouinard submitted a written report. NStar gas work is underway at Downing Square, expected to finish in May. Improvements will follow. Mystic St. gas work will follow, as well as Chestnut to Summer Street. Mystic Valley Parkway is being repaved by DCR and they will add handicap ramps.
 - Laura reported that the Planning Department has hired a new Economic Development Planner, Ted Fields, who will start the end of the month. There will be a public master plan event on June 1.
- Mass. Ave. Corridor Project. The Selectmen will discuss sending a letter of support to MassDOT at their meeting of 4/22.
- CLAMP. Public hearing is scheduled for April 23. The project was moved to the 2014 TIP from 2013, which gives us a little more time for design.
- Gray Street crosswalk. Elisabeth submitted a preliminary proposal. Crossing for schools is most difficult during the morning rush. Preliminary proposal suggests adding 2 crosswalks and a speed advisory sign. Existing speed signs are inconsistent.
- Jason St. cut through. Howard will send the list of locations for traffic counts to the vendor.
- Mass/Jason/Mill. Jeff reported that the WG went before the ARB to discuss recommendations for this intersection. They got verbal support. ARB Chair Bruce Fitzsimmons asked about removing the "Right turn on red" restriction from Mass. Ave. Corey said there was no place on Mass. Ave. where that was allowed. Jeff suggested TAC make the recommended changes first and then consider The ARB request in a later round. Voted unanimously to move forward with getting approval from Selectmen.
- Mill Street Flashing Beacon. Wayne noted that Alta Brigham Sq. will provide signs that the Town will install. Laura

reminded TAC that we have one year to use escrow money to assure proper operation. Should monitor on a regular basis. Scott will draft an educational piece for the Advocate, and possibly something for ACMI.

- Russell Place. This is not a public way. It is an access way. Elisabeth and Wayne are looking into this.
- Pedestrian Flags. WG is looking at expanding the program, with priority around the schools. More flags are needed.
- Arlington Center Parking Study. Howard and Laura presented the draft report, particularly recommendations. Ed noted that in the past the East Arlington parking group looked at cost and revenue from enforcement and it generated about \$2 in revenue for every \$1 paid for enforcement. It was suggested that one of the recommendations, to remove the existing parking meters in the Russell Common lot, be removed because it would make it difficult to replace the meters in the future, and there may be data we can gather from them. Voted unanimously to send report to Selectmen after removing recommendations 3(a) and 3(b).
- New Associates. Haven't gotten resumes yet. Laura will get from Selectmen's office.
- Medford Street bus stop. Laura presented report to move bus stop slightly toward Chestnut Street, replace one taxi stand with a handicap space, and designate one space for 15 minute parking. Corey opposed removing taxi stand. There are about 10 taxi spaces in Town and many more cabs. Bylaws require taxis to park in taxi stands only. Need to find out how many cabs are dispatched via calls versus walk-ups. Laura will discuss with Town Manager and try to get direction from Selectmen about need for taxi stand.
- Peirce School. Additional parking enforcement was requested.
- Mass. Ave./Brattle Street. A new NO PARKING HERE TO CORNER sign was requested for Mass. Ave. westbound, farside of Brattle. Corey is reviewing.
- School Issues. There was a town wide Safe Routes meeting.

Meeting Materials:

- Meeting Packet for April: Agenda, 4/10/13; Minutes of 3/12/13; Working Group List, 4/3/13; BoS/ARB Request Status, 4/3/13, Individual Action List from 3/12/13; BoS/ARB Request Status, 4/2/13; Draft memo to Board of Selectmen and Adam Chapdelaine, Town Manager, from TAC, Re. Medford Street bus stops and parking, dated April 10, 2013; Memo to Board of Selectmen from TAC Re. Warrant Article 16: Safe Street Bylaw, dated March 13, 2013.
- Memo to Arlington Redevelopment Board from TAC, Re. Intersection of Mass. Avenue/ Mill Street/Jason Street Dated March 16, 2013.
- "Gray Street Speed Signs April 10, 2013"
- Memo to TAC from WAC, dated 4/10/13, Re. TAC Update Items
- Memo to TAC from Laura Wiener and Howard Muise, Re. Draft Report (Arlington Center Parking Study), dated April 10, 2013.